

# At the Center



## A Message from Dan Castillo, CEO



We are so fortunate to have such compassionate and caring staff! You'll see in this issue two physicians I recognized at the Annual Attending Staff Dinner this year that exemplify "Passionate Providers"—Dr. Arthur Partikian from the Department of Neurology and Dr. Rebecca Trotzky-Sirr who leads our Urgent Care and Continuing Care Clinics.

You'll also see our very own nurses recognized by the Board of Supervisors as LA County Stars after demonstrating **Service Excellence and Organizational Effectiveness** by improving customer service and satisfaction through the creation of a *Grand Resort* for the patients on the 7C Med/Surg Unit —Congratulations and thank you for making a difference!

And finally, along with our Nurse Recognition Week, we have our Daisy Award program that recognizes nurses who are role models in providing "compassionate care" and who have a "commitment to excellence." Our first winner of this great honor in July was Ms. Aurea Ascencio, RN, AS, who has worked on the 7c Med/Surg unit for the past 3 years. And in August, the Daisy Awardee was Mr. Steve Klingman, RN, AS, BSN, who has been part of our 4C Neuro ICU for the past 6 years. Thank you both for your contributions to our facility and our patients—you are examples for all of us!

### Learning Opportunity

After touring through our pharmacy areas, I learned that we have nearly 1,700 medication-related near misses per quarter—often related to our physicians not being familiar with particular dosages or formulary medications. Here's an easy fix...download the Micromedex *free* app on your Android or iPhone and enter the password **Va3eHa** to begin using it. It will provide drug information, interactions, appropriate dosing, etc. so our providers can ensure safe prescribing habits.

**MICROMEDEX**  
FREE  
DRUG REFERENCE



## LAC+USC Welcomes New Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Brad Spellberg

By Hal F. Yee, Jr., M.D., PH.D.

Chief Medical Officer—Department of Health Services

Brad Spellberg, MD, has been appointed Chief Medical Officer of the LAC+USC Medical Center and Professor of Medicine and Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs at the Keck School of Medicine of USC effective July 1, 2014.

Dr. Spellberg comes from Harbor-UCLA Medical Center where he was Associate Medical Director for Inpatient Services, Associate Program Director for the Internal Medicine Residency Program and a Professor of Medicine at UCLA.

Dr. Spellberg attended medical school at UCLA, completed his residency in Internal Medicine and subspecialty fellowship in infectious diseases at Harbor-UCLA, joining the faculty in 2004. He also has extensive clinical research experience and is Chair of the Gram Negative Committee and a Steering Committee member of the Antibiotic Resistance Leadership Group, which leads a new, national NIH-funded clinical research consortium focusing on antibiotic resistance.

We are confident that Dr. Spellberg will bring a creative, problem-solving approach to help LAC+USC continue to transform and thrive in this exciting era of academic medicine and healthcare delivery.

## Dr. Trotzky-Sirr: A Physician's Passion

By Hyung T. (Henry) Kim, M.D., FACEP, FAAEM

Chief of Service, Department of Emergency Medicine

Dr. Rebecca Trotzky-Sirr has been awarded the Passionate Performer Award for her commitment to our patients and the local community. The former Fulbright scholar was part of the team that re-designed the Urgent Care Center and developed the Continuing Care Clinic for patients who do not have primary care providers. She is also involved in the gang tattoo removal program at Homeboy Industries, volunteers with the Program for Torture Victims, the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking, and many others. We are proud to have her as a valuable member of the faculty and care teams.



# L.A. County Stars Award Winners - 7C GRAND RESORT

By Linda Felix, R.N.

Administrator, Department of Nursing

Congratulations to the 7C Grand Resort Nursing Unit Base Team who were the May 2014 winners of the **L.A. County Stars Award in the category of Service Excellence and Organizational Effectiveness**. On May 27, 2014, Dan Castillo, Isabel Milan and I accompanied the nursing team to the recognition ceremony at the Board of Supervisors. Dan Castillo congratulated the team and provided a brief summary regarding LAC+USC Medical Center's progress under the Affordable Care Act and conveyed the importance of patient satisfaction as a priority for all staff.

Board Chairman, Supervisor Don Knabe, convened the ceremony and introduced the nursing team as the May 2014 winners of the L.A. County Stars Award. Supervisor Knabe described the 7C Grand Resort project as a customer service model which focuses on making patients feel welcome by anticipating their needs and providing customer-centered service. Supervisor Knabe also described the 7C nursing team as taking great pride in their patient care services. The 7C team emphasizes a respectful and dignified professional environment that believes customer service starts with the employees. The unit motto is "Smile At All Times."



The 7C Grand Resort project is under the nursing leadership of Annie Marquez, R.N. Clinical Nursing Director, Medical, Surgical and Psychiatric Nursing Services. The nursing team members recognized are: Nazma Ghaffar, R.N., Donna Naylor, R.N., Mirna Guardado, R.N., Beatrice Lopez, R.N., Guadalupe Ramirez, N.A., Olga Green, R.N., N.M. and Ann Boonjaluksa, R.N., ANDA. Each member received a letter of congratulations and appreciation from the Department of Human Resources, a beautiful L.A. County Stars Board of Supervisors Scroll, a gift bag with many goodies and their team picture will be located on the L.A County Stars Wall on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Hall of Administration. The project is now eligible to obtain the L.A. County Super Stars Award in the same category in the upcoming year. Congrats to the 7C team!

## Attending Staff Office Leadership

By Phillip L. Moore III, M.P.A.

Director, Program Administration

**The** Attending Staff Association elected new leaders for Fiscal Year 2014-2016.

Dr. Paul Holtom, Chief of Staff/President, is the facility Hospital Epidemiologist and an infectious disease expert in medicine and orthopedics with a membership since Oct 2, 1989. Dr. Laila Muderspach, Chief of Staff/President Elect, is the Chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Chair of the Blood Utilization Committee with a membership since Sept 4, 1991. Dr. Rudy Amaya, Secretary/Treasurer, is the Chief of Anesthesiology, Chair of the Blood Utilization Committee, Co-Chair of the Operating Room Committee and a member since August 7, 1996.

**The** facility leadership would like to thank the outgoing officers of Dr. Philip Lumb, Chief of Staff/President since 2008, as well as Dr. Cindy Stotts, who has served as an officer of the Medical Staff since 2000. Dr. Stott's was the first female Chief of Staff and the first Chief of Staff re-elected. In addition, she served as the Move Commander for the replacement facility in 2008 and has been active on several medical staff committees in the facility.

## Pediatric Epilepsy Program

By Sandy Correa

Administrator, Pediatrics and Violence Intervention Program



The Pediatric Epilepsy Program at LAC+USC Medical Center was highlighted at a recent fundraising event. Dr. Arthur Partikian, Director of the Division of Child Neurology, spoke at the Care & Cure Benefit of the Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Los Angeles which was held on June 10<sup>th</sup> at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel. Our CEO Dan Castillo also attended the event in support of our accomplishments. Proceeds from the annual Care & Cure Benefit provide crucial funds to

support the training of new pediatric neurology/epilepsy specialists and establish more specialty care at LAC+USC Medical Center and other hospitals in the community. Here's a touching video about one of our patients that was shared that night: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=alLzk8PXc0&list=PLSexGFhDI87yjj0kCSPdY3hT5hzPGCcWT&index=5>. Seizures can have devastating effects on the developing brain, so providing early, high quality intervention is imperative for a successful outcome. Patrick Wachsberger, Co-Chairman of the Lionsgate Motion Picture Group, was honored at the event and visited the Pediatric Neurology clinic on our campus.

Dr. Partikian recounted how Care & Cure has played a pivotal role in the expansion of critical clinical services over the past seven years in our East Los Angeles Community. The Pediatric Epilepsy Program has grown to include five full-time and highly dedicated staff members, including Dr. Partikian, Dr. Michele Van Hirtum-Das (Pediatric Epileptologist and Assistant Director of the Division), Jessica Lowe, MPH, RD, Marcie Gomez, RN II, and Ruby Gonzalez, Nurse Attendant. Strategically situated within the Medical Village of the Outpatient Building, the Pediatric Neurology clinic incorporates multi-disciplinary staff members to provide advanced diagnostic studies in order to guide a myriad of therapeutic options ranging from medications, ketogenic diets, and neurostimulation devices for drug-resistant forms of childhood epilepsy. Moreover, surgical options are explored using expert consensus from USC, LAC+USC and RLA Comprehensive Epilepsy programs. Dr. Astrid Heger, Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Executive Director, Violence Intervention Program, says *"Dr. Partikian and his staff of professionals provide access to a lifesaving service to a population of underserved patients and their families. Without his clinic most of these families would be denied access to the care they so desperately need."*



# Nurse Recognition Week: “Nurses Leading Transformation”

By Linda Felix, R.N.

Administrator, Department of Nursing

Through the doors of LAC+USC Medical Center walk the greatest Nurses! A sincere thank you to the LAC + USC Medical Center Nursing staff in honor of National Nurse’s Week May 5<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup>, 2014, with the theme “Nurses Leading Transformation.” All of our nurses were acknowledge at the Nurse Recognition Ceremony on May 6<sup>th</sup>.

*Stefanie Kern*



Isabel Milan, R.N., Chief Nursing Officer, presented the 2013 Nurse of the Year winners in the categories of Registered Nurse, Nurse Attendant and Clerk. Also announced were the recipients in the categories of Honorable Mention, Merit and the Cares’ Nurse of the Year.

Stefanie Kern, R.N., is the winner of the 2013 Nurse of the Year. Ms. Kern works in the Department of Emergency Medicine. Dr. Stuart Swadron described Ms. Kern as “giving 100% in caring for those who cannot care for themselves, and an excellent role model for the nursing staff.” She has been a Charge Nurse in various departments, a preceptor and mentor to many, and hold various nursing specialty certifications. Ms. Kern takes great pride in her duties. She is a responsible individual who provides exceptional patient care. Ms. Kern has a cheerful demeanor, gets along well with colleagues and expresses confidence in her ability to lead in highly stressful situations.

*Rose Bellegarde*



One of the Merit Award winners is: Rose Bellegarde, N.A. II, works in the Surgical ICU Unit 5A. Ms. Bellegarde’s supervisor, Martha Navarro, N.M., noted that she is a “well-organized individual, a helpful team player and very resourceful.” She often spends time with patients to listen, counsel and give advice. Another Merit Award winner is Yvonne Tate, Intermediate Clerk, who works in the Medical/Surgical Unit 7B. She is described as “warm and friendly and very easy going” by her supervisor Virginia Mathews, N.M. The unit is excited to have her on their team. She gives from the heart every single day.

*Yvonne Tate*



Additional Merit Award Winners include: Natalia Mazas, R.N., Augustus Hawkins, Eileen Friesen-Mosher, R.N., MICU 4A, Carla Curry, R.N., Ortho Clinic, Rosa Colin, R.N., 8A, Araceli Petrasant, R.N., Gyn Procedure 3H and Pamela Officer, Clerk, MICU 4A.



*Congratulations to our nurse winners who are representatives of professionals at their best!*





37 Exhibitor Booths



325 prizes & giveaways  
by LA County Sheriff

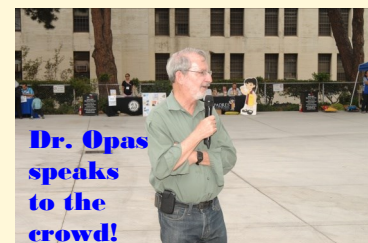
# 1st Annual Pediatric Health Fair

June 7, 2014



187 Passports to Health  
provided to Kidz

Over 300+ attendees



0 Boo Boos & Scrapes reported  
to the  
First Aid Booth

40 Managed Care orientations & referrals provided to participants

At the **Center**

Committed to Quality Care & Courteous Service



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Vol. 3, Issue 4, June-Oct 2014